

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application No.	:	To Be Assigned	Confirmation No. :
First Named Inventor	:	Ingo GREUEL	
Filed	:	Concurrently Herewith	
TC/A.U.	:	To Be Assigned	
Examiner	:	To Be Assigned	
Docket No.	:	095309.55878US	
Customer No.	:	23911	
Title	:	Closing Device	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE

The relevance of document numbers DE 39 00 508 and DE 42 30 985 to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background and Summary of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 have already been provided by the International Searching Authority, therefore, duplicate copies are not attached hereto. Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF NON-ENGLISH
LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS**

English abstract summarizing the disclosures of the German publications are submitted herewith.

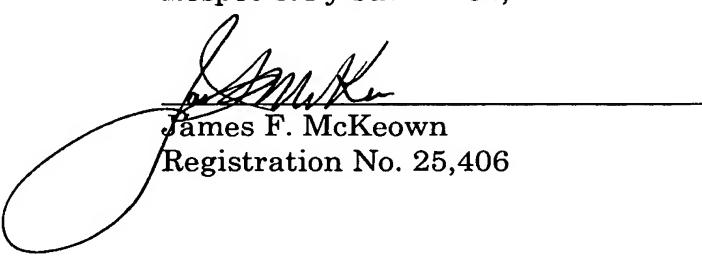
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-captioned application, and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Docket No.: 095309.55878US.

Respectfully submitted,

February 2, 2005



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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<p>Complete if Known</p>	
<p>Application Number</p>		<p>To Be Assigned</p>			
<p>Filing Date</p>		<p>Concurrently Herewith</p>			
<p>First Named Inventor</p>		<p>Ingo GREUEL</p>			
<p>Art Unit</p>		<p>To Be Assigned</p>			
<p>Examiner Name</p>		<p>To Be Assigned</p>			
<p>Attorney Docket Number</p>		<p>095309.55878US</p>			
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ —Number ⁴ —Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
	X	DE 198 40 520	03/09/2000	Volkswagen AG	
	X	EP 1 267 023	12/18/2002	VALEO Sicherheitssysteme	
		DE 39 00 508	08/03/1989	General Motors Corp.	
		DE 42 30 985	04/08/1993	Mitsubishi Jidosha Kogyo K.K.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.